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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 10/718,906 | 11/21/2003 | Kevin Cable | BRP-56 | 1643 |
| 37923 | 7590 | 06/15/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| ROBERTSON & MULLINAX, LLC PO BOX 26029 GREENVILLE, SC 29616-1029 | | | TARAZANO, DONALD LAWRENCE | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1773 | |

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/718,906

Applicant(s)

CABLE, KEVIN

Examiner

D. Lawrence Tarazano

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 11-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 11-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/15/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-7, and 11-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Heffelfinger et al (2001/0055692).

3. Heffelfinger et al. teach extruded multilayer film structures, in which the film structures comprise outer heat sealable layers made of linear low-density polyethylene (Metallocene catalyzed polyethylene having a density of 0.910 g/cc) and 0.23% of a silica-antiblocking agent (corresponding to the applicants inorganic particles). Example 4 shows three layer films having a polypropylene core. The additives (antiblocking agents) may be added to one or more layers [0025] and including both silica and diatomaceous earth [0026].

4. The surfaces of the films can be laminated to other materials such as paperboard, craft paper, or cartonboard.

5. These films are used for packaging applications so it is easy to envisage them being formed into a formed package as claimed.

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6. Claims 1-6, 11, 12, and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gu (2002/0187333).

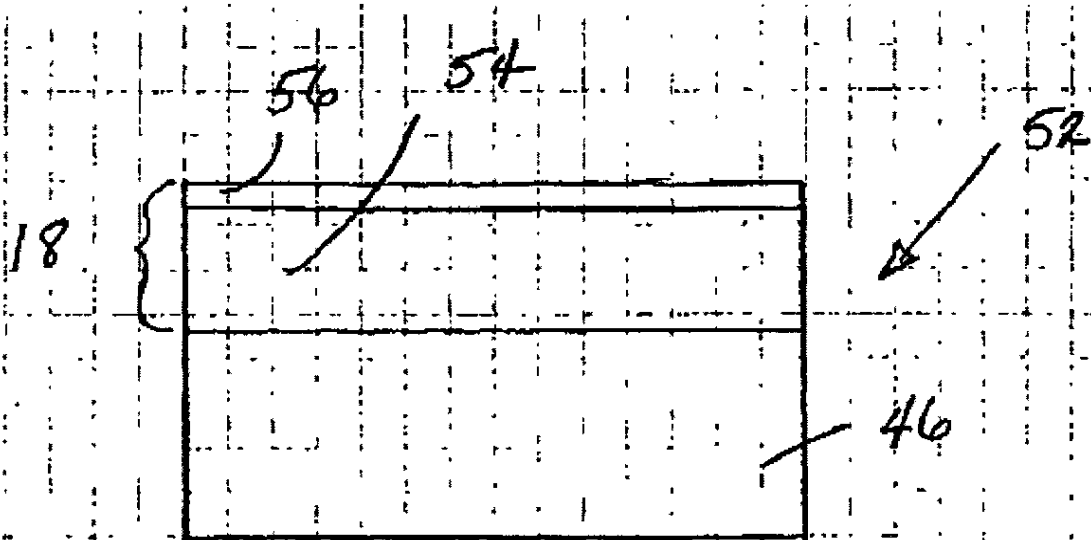


FIG. 3

7. Gu teaches multilayer coextruded structures (18) comprising cellulose substrate (46) [0048, including paperboard]. The coextruded film (18) may contain talc or calcium carbonate [0056]. Sublayer (54) contains polypropylene materials [0050], and the surface layer (56) may contain heat sealable materials such as EXACT™ or AFFINITY™ (LLDPE, polyethylene) [0052].

8. Claims 1-7 and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Castle et al (2002/0051873).

9. Castle et al. teach paperboard packaging having a single polymer layer predominately comprising LDPE. The polymer layer may also contain filler in the blend to increase the stiffness or barrier properties of the laminate [0018]. They specifically describe a blend of

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LDPE, nylon and calcium carbonate [0018]. Objects such as milk cartons are made from the laminate (example 3). The examiner notes that LDPE is a heat sealable material.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-7 and 9-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heffelfinger et al. (2001/0055692).

12. Heffelfinger et al. teach that the films of their invention can be laminated to a substrate such as paper or paperboard. These films are also used in packaging applications.

13. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have made paperboard or paper laminate out of the films taught by Heffelfinger et al. in order to make laminate structures useful for packaging applications, such as boxes (cartons) made from the laminate since this is a common package structure.

14. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have added antiblocking agents to the layers of the films taught by Heffelfinger et al. in order to produce films with improved antiblocking properties. Regarding claim 20, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have to have coated both sides of a paperboard laminate so that the second surface would be more resistant to moisture.

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15. Claims 1-7 and 10-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Castle et al (2002/0051873).

16. The general structure of Castle et al. is taught above. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to added filler to the compositions taught by Castle et al. in order to produce carton structures with increased stiffness.

17. Regarding claim 20, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have coated both sides of the structure so that both sides of the surface would be protected from moisture.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. Lawrence Tarazano whose telephone number is (571)-272-1515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 6:00 (off every other Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul J Thibodeau can be reached on (571)-272-1516. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

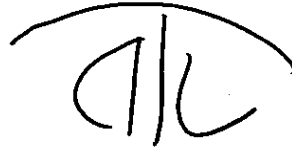
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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D. Lawrence Tarazano
Primary Examiner
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dlt

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by a vertical line and a cursive 'L'.